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MR. PRESIDENT :—" Hon. Members are following a wrong line altogether. What the point they want is this. Have the Government any information about the news that was published in the newspapers recently that the Andhra Province question has been dropped and, if so, how far is it correct? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" We have no official information about it, Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Have the Government reminded the Government of India when a reply could be received, in view of the fact that the D-Day is nearing, which fact they themselves have recognized? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" In reply to the Government of India's correspondence on the subject, we have sent our report and we are awaiting further communication from them, Sir."

Civil and Criminal jurisdiction of a portion of the Sirugappa taluk.

* 105-B *Q.*—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any portion of Siruguppa taluk has been incorporated into the civil and criminal jurisdiction of the Munsif-Magistrate's Court at Adoni and, if so, which portion of the taluk;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the said area was within the jurisdiction of the Bellary District Munsif's Court and Subdivisional Magistrate's Court till 31st December 1949;

(*c*) what the reasons are that induced the Government to make the change of jurisdiction;

(*d*) whether the Government have received representations from the people of Sirugappa taluk protesting against the change; and

(*e*) whether the Government have taken any action thereon and, if so, to what effect?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) Yes. The portion of Sirugappa taluk nearest to Adoni, comprising of villages within the limits of Hachcholi Police station.

" (*b*) Yes.

" (*c*) With the introduction of the Scheme of Separation of the Judiciary from the Executive, an additional post of District Munsif-cum-Subdivisional Magistrate was created in the district with headquarters at Adoni and hence a re-distribution among the Courts of District Munsif-cum-Subdivisional Magistrates was effected. The portion of Siruguppa taluk which is nearest to Adoni has been attached to the jurisdiction of the new court.

" (*d*) Yes.

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"(e) The matter is engaging the attention of the Government."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—"Are the Government aware that this portion of the Siruguppa taluk is entirely Kannada and that the people of that portion do not know the Telugu language at all?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"We decided the question of jurisdiction not on the linguistic basis, Sir, but from the point of view of convenience to the parties concerned. It is on this basis that the division of jurisdiction was made."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that the present Munsif-Magistrate who is posted to Adoni does not know the Kannada language at all, and that it is very difficult for him to understand the evidence given by the parties or witnesses from this area?"

†THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"I do not think so, Sir."

Transfer of officers.

* 106 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a rule that ordinarily an officer should not be transferred from a place before he completes three years;

(b) what steps are taken by the Government to satisfy themselves that this rule is observed by the Heads of Departments; and

(c) whether the Government satisfy themselves that, in respect of officers of various departments whose transfers are made by them, the rule regulating transfers is being observed?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN (on behalf of Hon. the Premier) :—"(a) & (b) There is no statutory rule prohibiting the transfer of officers within three years. The Government have however issued instructions to the effect that an officer should not ordinarily be transferred from one station to another within a period of three years and that when an officer has to be transferred earlier in the exigencies of public service, the special reasons for the transfer should be invariably recorded in writing. The Government have also directed that a copy of the order of transfer together with a copy of the special reasons should be forwarded to the immediate official superior of the officer ordering the transfer and that the official superior should satisfy himself that the reasons given are satisfactory.

"(c) Yes."